

**Choose a bolded question and expand your response into one page (15 points).**

From *Walden* “Where I lived and What I lived for”

1. Why did he go to the woods? Do you go to the woods?
2. **What does he recommend for us? How can you do this in your life?**

“Conclusion”

1. To what does Thoreau compare the path at his cabin? How is he correct?
2. What has he learned?
3. What advice does he have concerning our perspective on life? **Choose one metaphor or wisdom from p. 390-391 and explain it fully, including examples.**

Emerson: “Self-Reliance”

1. Why is self-reliance so important to Emerson? **Discuss the pros and cons of this concept as it pertains to your life.**
2. **How does Emerson challenge the idea of absolutes (strict good and bad)? What is your opinion on absolutes and their existence or importance?**
3. **How does society continue to diminish individuality? Why? What is an example from your life?**
4. **What does it mean to be a nonconformist? Why should/n’t you be one? Explain.**
5. **What does the final sentence mean? To your life?**

Thoreau: “Civil Disobedience”

1. What is his opinion on government, and why does it still exist?
2. What is government or law’s effects on the individual?
3. Why is the prison of an unjust state the proper place for an honest man?
4. What is conscience’s role in a man’s life? What happens if he does not or cannot use it?
5. **What are your thoughts of government in general? Ours today? How can we have a better one?**
6. **What are flaws in Thoreau’s argument for less, or no, government?**

Whitman: “I Hear America Singing”

1. What does singing represent in this poem?
2. Why does Whitman not mention the wealthy (leaders, politicians, entrepreneurs) in this poem?
3. **What do you hear America singing by what people are doing today? (in your journal, write a poem that responds to this one)**
- 1.

**Possible composition piece: Compare these two poems. How can they coexist? Do they still today?**

“Song of Myself” – What do you enjoy about yourself/life? **(Write a poem of yourself)**